CIDA grant is given to Ministry of Power, Government of India for utilisation in Chamera HE Project (Stage-I) Himachal Pradesh.

Problems in Hydel Power Projects

1046. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any action to sort out pending problems in the hydel power for the States of North India;

(b) the problems sorted out so far; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to sort out the remaining problems?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) Besides shortage of funds, the main problems encountered by the States of Northern Region concerning development of hydel power are Inter-State aspects as well as environmental and forest issues. The problems of environmental and forest clearance can be sorted out by furnishing the requisite inputs by the project authorities. Govt. of India has approved the Policy on Hydro power development in August 1998, which inter-alia addresses to the problem of funding these projects as well as evolving an approach towards projects affected by Inter-State issues. The Policy envisages providing adequate funds in the Central/State Government projects and organisations, supplemental funding through agencies like Power Finance Corproation, entrusting basin-wise hydro power development to Central Power Undertakings, funding support to survey and investigations for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for new projects, attracting private investment through encouraging joint-ventures, making efforts towards evolving a consensus among basin States regarding allocation of projects, simplification of procedure for transferring of clearances from State Governments to Central PSUs and from State Governments to Private sector.

Forum like Northern Zonal Council is also utilised for bringing about State Governments concerned to reach an amicable settlement arising out of inter-State disputes etc.

In terms of the Policy, it has been possible to entrust the power projects in Parbati River Valley (total installed capacity of 2051 MW) to National Hydroelectric Power Corproation (NHPC). NHPC has also been assigned the task of implementing the Chamera Hydroelectric Project Stage-II (300MW).

Power quota to exporting units by NTPC

1047. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total MW units earmarked by NTPC for exporting units from Corporation's discretionary quota and if so, at what rate supply of power being made to them;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to increase the power quota of supply to exporting units;

(c) if so, the present demand thereof; and

(d) the quantity proposed to be increased so as to make them more competitive in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Total allocation of power to export oriented ferro-alloys/pellets units from unallocated quota of central sector generating stations *i.e.* NTPC and others is 45 MW and 333.5 MW during peak hours and non-peak hours respectively. These units have been allocated power at tariff rates of NTPC/other Central Sector stations and wheeling charges and transmission losses for intermediary system of the State Electricity Boards/Utilities.

(b) to (d) There is no general proposal as such under consideration of the Government.